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ABSTRACT

This British book discusses the value of creative drama for people with learning disabilities, offers some basic principles of working with people with learning disabilities, and describes a variety of approaches to drama. An introduction discusses the optimal size of a creative drama group, the kind of work space needed, equipment, membership, the qualities needed by the group leaders, structuring a session, and levels of challenge. It is recommended that sessions follow a five-phase design: arrivals and greetings, warming up, development of the central focus of the session, distancing and de-roling, and good-byes and departures. An overview of subsequent chapters of the book is then provided. Different drama structures are grouped in chapters around a practical focus, including: (1) arrivals and greetings; (2) body work; (3) sensory work; (4) voice work; (5) life skills; (6) games; (7) puppets; (8) improvisation; (9) dramatization; (10) fairy tales; (11) performance; (12) de-roling; and (13) closures. Each chapter includes information on preparation, the targeted activity, the purpose of the activity, and suggestions for further development. An index of activities is provided. (CR)

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